

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A staining machine for treatment of tissue specimens on slides placed in baskets, which machine includes:

a number of baths placed successively in ~~[[a]] row, and two juxtaposed and parallel bath rows, the first bath row extending from an input station located at a first end of the staining machine to an opposite end of the first bath row, and the second bath row extending from an output station located at the first end of the staining machine to an opposite end of the second bath row;~~

a first transport device for successive and simultaneous transport of the baskets ~~in a transport path in the first bath row from one bath to the next one from the input station to the opposite end of the first bath row, the baskets being transported from an input station to an output station in accordance with a predetermined treatment program, wherein the machine includes at least two bath rows placed juxtaposed and parallel with each other, the first bath row extending from the input station to an opposite end of the row, and a second bath row extending from the output station to an opposite end of the row, a first device for transport of baskets (9) in a first transport path from the input station to the opposite end of the first row,~~

a second transport device for successive and simultaneous transport of the baskets ~~in a second transport path~~ the second bath row from one bath to the next

one from the opposite end of the second bath row towards to the output station, from
~~the opposite end of the second row, and~~

a device for the transfer of baskets ~~between the transport paths at opposite~~
~~ends belonging together of the relevant rows~~ from a bath at the opposite end of the
first bath row to a bath at the opposite end of the second bath row; and

wherein the baskets are transported from the input station to the output
station in accordance with a predetermined treatment program.

2. (Currently Amended) A staining machine according to claim 1, wherein
~~it includes only a first and a second bath row, the input and output stations being are~~
 situated next to each other, and the device for the transfer of baskets ~~being~~
comprises a crossbar device ~~which is arranged to transfer baskets between two~~
~~baths which are located next to each other at said opposite ends of the two rows.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A staining machine according to claim 1, wherein
 each of said first and second transport device comprises a pair of cheeks extending
 along respective sides of the first and second bath ~~row in question~~ rows and being
 adapted for engagement with respective baskets, and wherein the staining machine
further comprises a device for lifting and lowering of each of the cheek ~~pair~~ pairs for
 successive movement of baskets from bath to bath.

4. (Currently Amended) A staining machine according to claim 3, wherein
 the lifting and lowering device comprises a pair of toothed belts of which each runs in
 a closed path over an upper and a lower guide wheel comprised in the staining

machine, and of which each is coupled to an end portion of a respective cheek via a carrier, and wherein the staining machine further comprises a step motor by means of which the toothed belts ~~being~~ are driven synchronously ~~by means of a step motor,~~ ~~so that the cheeks can be lifted and lowered in a stadium-shaped movement.~~

5. (Currently Amended) A staining machine according to claim 4, wherein the pair of toothed belts at an end of the machine ~~via an additional toothed belt~~ are coupled via an additional toothed belt to a corresponding pair of toothed belts arranged at an opposite end of the machine with appurtenant guide wheels and carriers at the other end of the cheeks, so that the cheeks are lifted and lowered synchronously at each end thereof.

6. (Previously Presented) A staining machine according to claim 2, wherein the crossbar device comprises a crossbar bracket which is adapted for releasable connection with a basket, and which is coupled to a means for reciprocating movement of the crossbar bracket in a horizontal path.

7. (Currently Amended) A ~~Staining~~ staining machine according to claim 6, ~~wherein the~~ further comprising movement means ~~comprises~~ comprising a slide block which is coupled to the crossbar bracket and is displaceable on a horizontal guide rod, the slide block ~~being~~ coupled to a toothed belt which is driven back and forth by means of a step motor.